

What is Claimed is:

1. A method for detecting molecules expressing a selected epitope in a sample comprising:

(a) immobilizing a molecule expressing a selected epitope in a sample to a selected surface;

(b) contacting the surface with an epitope detector so that the epitope detector binds to immobilized molecules on the surface, said epitope detector comprising an oligonucleotide attached to a monoclonal antibody for the selected epitope, a single chain Fv for the epitope or a constrained epitope specific CDR;

(c) amplifying the oligonucleotide of said epitope detector;

(d) contacting the amplified oligonucleotide with a fluorescent dye which stains the oligonucleotide; and

(e) measuring fluorescence emitted from the stained oligonucleotide which is indicative of epitope detector bound to the surface and molecules expressing the selected epitope in the sample.

2. A kit for the detection of molecules expressing a selected epitope via fluorescence comprising:

(a) an epitope detector comprising an oligonucleotide attached to a monoclonal antibody for the selected epitope, a single chain Fv for the epitope or a constrained epitope specific CDR;

(b) an RNA polymerase;

(c) an amplification reaction buffer;

and

(d) a fluorescent dye.

3. The kit of claim 2 wherein the oligonucleotide of the epitope detector is coupled to biotin and the monoclonal antibody, single chain Fv or constrained epitope specific CDR is coupled to streptavidin so that attachment of the

oligonucleotide to the monoclonal antibody, single chain Fv or constrained epitope specific CDR to form the epitope detector is via the biotin-streptavidin complex.

4. A method for profiling proteins in a cell lysate
5 comprising:

(a) adding to the cell lysate a mixture of epitope detectors comprising monoclonal antibodies for selected epitopes, single chain Fvs for selected epitopes or constrained epitope specific CDRs conjugated with cDNAs of
10 different lengths;

(b) performing RNA amplification;

(c) separating the RNAs via electrophoresis; and

(d) visualizing the RNA products via fluorescence so that the profile of proteins in the lysate can be determined.

15 5. A kit for profiling proteins comprising:

(a) a mixture of epitope detectors comprising monoclonal antibodies for selected epitopes, single chain Fvs for selected epitopes or constrained epitope specific CDRs conjugated with cDNAs of different lengths;

20 (b) an RNA polymerase;

(c) an amplification reaction buffer;

and

(d) a fluorescent dye.

6. The kit of claim 5 wherein oligonucleotides of
25 the epitope detectors are coupled to biotin and the monoclonal antibodies, single chain Fvs or constrained epitope specific CDRs are coupled to streptavidin so that attachment of the oligonucleotides to the monoclonal antibodies, single chain Fvs or constrained epitope specific
30 CDRs to form the epitope detectors is via the biotin-streptavidin complex.

7. A method for developing a two-component system for monitoring interaction of molecules *in vitro* comprising:

(a) immobilizing a first molecule to a solid support;
(b) adding a second molecule which interacts with the
5 first molecule to the solid support;

(c) adding a universal epitope detector conjugated with a polymerase promoter-containing oligonucleotide to the solid support;

(d) performing RNA amplification;

10 (e) contacting the amplified oligonucleotide with a fluorescent dye which stains the oligonucleotide; and

(f) measuring fluorescence emitted from the stained oligonucleotide which is indicative of binding of the first molecule to the second molecule.

15 8. The method of claim 7 wherein said first and second molecules are proteins, sugars, carbohydrates, DNA, RNA, or peptides with structural conformations.

9. A method of monitoring interaction of molecules *in vitro* comprising:

20 (a) developing a two-component system in accordance with the method of claim 7;

(b) adding a third molecule to the two-component interaction system; and

(c) monitoring effects of the third molecule on the
25 binding and interaction of said first and second molecules of said two-component system via measuring changes in fluorescence wherein a positive change in fluorescence is indicative of the third molecule facilitating binding of the first and second molecule and a negative change in
30 fluorescence is indicative of the third molecule inhibiting binding of the first and second molecule.

10. The method of claim 9 wherein said third molecule comprises a ligand or a pharmaceutical drug.